



Fountain Hills Community Services Department

FOUNTAIN HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES MODIFIED SENIOR SOFTBALL RULES

Modified Senior softball rules will apply.

Rosters must be fully filled out and signed by all players and turned in at registration.

- ❖ All participants must have proof of age
- ❖ Teams with ineligible players will forfeit all games played
- ❖ Participants must be the minimum required age for his division in the **2018** calendar year (January 1 – December 31)

All batters start with a 0 and 0 count.

A **Pitching screen** is mandatory to help reduce injuries. The pitcher must pitch from behind it or to the side. If a hit ball touches any part of the screen it shall be considered a dead ball foul or strike, runners may not advance. If a batter hits the screen on their 3rd strike then they are out. A thrown ball that hits the screen is live, runners may advance.

A runner who touches or jumps over any portion of the regular home plate or pitching **mat** shall be declared an out.

All **bats** marked “1.21 bpf” or SSUSA Approved or have an ASA stamp are approved for use. The only other somewhat frequently encountered non-complying bat is the blue Boombah with a BPF marked 1.205, which does not meet the standard. **Players under the age of 65 are required to use an ASA bat.**

Batting line-ups are unlimited. Eleven defensive players are allowed in the 65+ division. Teams in the 65+ and can individually choose to play the eleventh man regardless of the number of players the opposing team is fielding. Free substitution is allowed on defense.

Unlimited homeruns are allowed in the recreation league. This isn’t a tournament league so tournament rules don’t apply to Wednesday leagues or homeruns.

Run Rule: Teams with a higher rating will give the Payson Cougars (visiting team), (1) run in any inning that the visiting team does not score (5) runs up through the seventh inning. **The team with the higher rating who will be giving runs is always the home team.** The run rule is subject to change after the first week of the season or the discretion of the Recreation Coordinator.

The Payson Cougars will have the option to receive runs (**refer to Run Rule above**) or (2) additional players from the opposing team. It will be the manager’s decision to meet prior to the first game to determine what players are chosen. If the opposing team does not have enough players, then the Payson team will trade the opposing team (2) of their players. (**Adopted 9/18/18**)



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Home team is the official scorekeeper. **Game scores are due to the Recreation Coordinator the following day by 9:00 am.**

A code of conduct will be in effect for all team managers to adhere and communicate to their players. Players will be issued verbal warnings, written reprimand, suspension and ejection of league to be determined by Recreation Coordinator.

Pinch runners are unlimited other than that they may only run once per inning per player.

More than one courtesy runner may be used in an inning; however, no player can be used as a courtesy runner more than once per inning (if a courtesy runner is used more than once in an inning, he shall be declared out automatically upon touching the base). A courtesy runner may not be replaced by another courtesy runner except for injury causing the permanent removal from the game of the original courtesy runner. If a courtesy runner is scheduled to be the next batter, the umpire shall declare that batter out (if less than two outs, the courtesy runner may remain on base; if it is the third out, the next batter in the lineup shall be the first batter in the next inning).

- ❖ Allow four players on each team's roster that are less than age 65 but at least age 62 (turn 62 by the end of the calendar year of play).
- ❖ On a game by game basis, limit the pre-65 players to two in the lineup. This goes for both the batting order and defensive fielding.
- ❖ If there are more than three pre-65 players (no younger than 62) on the roster, rotate them in the lineup on a game by game basis, so that not more than two play in any one game. While you can substitute a pre-65 player for another player in a game, you are still limited to two pre-65 players on defense and in the lineup for that game.
- ❖ Pre-65 players cannot substitute run for a player. A 65+ player can run for them.
- ❖ Pre-65 players cannot use "Senior bats", such as composite Miken Ultra IIs. Only ASA approve bats may be used by pre-65 players.

Rules updated on September 24, 2018